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"THE ENGLISH CHANNEL SWIM."

Slippery Sam was on the job again, peddling posters about the great english channel swimming contest. There was 10, 000 "bucks" awards.

It seemed that everybody round those parts just naturally took to water like ducks take to dry land. And it wasn't so long before everybody was in the swim.

Then came the big day of the big event. Everybody wa getting dolled up in their best bathing suits and starting right out to the starting.

Now, everybody knows there's no fool like an old fool--and everybody knows Old Farmer Al isn't as young as he used to be. And besides at his age, you'd think he'd have common sense NOT to get wet. But then, it is rumored that from the neck up there is only a floating bone yard. So there he was strutting right out with the rest.

On the appointed hour, the pistol is fired and one big splash follows when the big swim is on in earnest. One can fairly hear the splash-splash of a thousand hands and paws beating the salty foam.

Right in the midst of the channel scarcely four hours out, a flock of trouble had to start. Overhand cat tried to pass the farmer up. The farmer picked him up and threw him back, but the brave cat tried again, only to be thrown further back, this time he landed right on a shark. They sink to the bottom, and a violent battle follows. It is a cleverly fought battle with swords and everything. Finally the cat gets the best of it, kills the shark, uses him for a row boat and starts out to catch the farmer.

This he does in very short order, for Time and Tide are beginning to show their mark on the farmer and he's toddling along rather slowly. The cat rowing on the dead shark passes the farmer and then starts beating him over the head with his oar. Evidently the Farmer did not win the race.

AESOP SAYS:-

"Don't invite trouble,
"It always accepts."

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